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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4554
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 19027

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV PFOR WB GE US UK FR GW
SUBJECT: INNER-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS: TELTOW CANAL

REF: BONN 18728

1. AT NOVEMBER 20 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE FRG REQUEST (REFTEL) FOR A REEXAMINIATION OF THE FRENCH POSITION ON OPENING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE TELTOW CANAL. THE FRENCH ARE READY TO TAKE THE GERMAN REQUEST INTO CONSIDERATION ON TWO CONDITIONS:

A. THAT THE FRG STATES THAT THE SCHEME FOR NEGOTIATIONS IT IS PROPOSING DOES NOT CALL FOR A MODIFICATION OF THE MANDATE WHICH THE ALLIES HAVE GIVEN THE SENAT; AND

B. THAT THE ALLIES BE TOLD IN ADVANCE WHAT THE SCHEME FOR NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE IF, AS NOW SEEMS LIKELY,
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THE FRG DOES NOT INTERVENE IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS AT ALL.

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2. FRG REP (LUECKING) SAID HE COULD ANSWER BOTH QUESTIONS AT ONCE:

A. THE FRG IS SATISFIED WITH THE MANDATE WHICH WAS WORKED OUT IN THE BONN GROUP AND WHICH HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE SENAT, AND DOES NOT ASK THAT IT BE MODIFIED.

B. THE OTHER SIDE HAS REFUSED CATEGORICALLY TO DISCUSS CERTAIN MATTERS WITH THE FRG. THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THERE SHOULD BE A MODIFICATION OF THE SENAT'S NEGOTIATING MANDATE. THE FRG BELIEVES THERE ARE QUESTIONS THE SENAT COULD NOT AND SHOULD NOT DEAL WITH. THE FRG BELIEVES THAT THE ONLY WAY TO DEAL WITH THE TELTOW MATTER IS VIA UNILATERAL STATEMENTS FROM THE GDR. IT IS NOW NECESSARY TO SEE HOW FAR THE GDR IS PREPARED TO GO.

3. BOISSIEU SAID HE WOULD REPORT FRG RESPONSES TO PARIS.

4. COMMENT: BOISSIEU HAD TOLD US AND UK REPS OF HIS INSTRUCTIONS AT NOVEMBER 17 TRIPARTITE MEETING. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT HE HAD ALSO DISCUSSED THEM BILATERALLY WITH LUECKING BEFORE BONN GROUP MEETING. IN AN ASIDE, BOISSIEU SAID HE HAD ALREADY TOLD LUECKING HE WOULD NOT ASK HIM WHO WAS GOING TO SPEAK TO THE GDR ABOUT THE DESIRED UNILATERAL DECLARATION. CONCEIVABLY THIS MIGHT BE TAKEN UP IN THE "NON-CONVERSATIONS" WHICH WE UNDERSTAND GAUS HAS FROM TIME TO TIME WITH GDR OFFICIALS.

5. THE BALL IS BACK IN THE FRENCH COURT. WE ARE UNCERTAIN AS TO WHETHER THE FRG ANSWERS WILL BE CONSIDERED SUFFICIENT IN PARIS TO PERMIT THE SENAT TO INITIATE "TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS" WITH THE GDR. HILLENBRAND.

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